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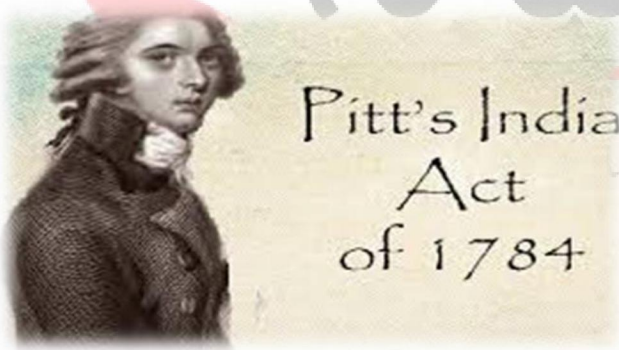
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## Today in History on 25 FEB

### ➤ 1784 – Pitt's India Act passed.

The East India Company Act 1784, also known as Pitt's India Act, was an act of the Parliament of Great Britain intended to address the shortcomings of the Regulating Act 1773 by bringing the East India Company's rule in India under the control of the British Government. Named for British prime minister William Pitt the Younger, the act provided for the appointment of a Board of Control, and provided for a joint government of British India by the company and the Crown with the government holding the ultimate authority.



### ➤ 1921 - Russia occupies Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia.

On February 25, 1921, the Soviet Red Army occupied Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia. Following this incident, a communist government was formed under the leadership of Georgian Bolshevik Filipp Makharadze. The Georgian government and Constituent Assembly evacuated to Kutaisi in western Georgia.



### ➤ 1945 - Turkey declares war on Germany in World War II.

On February, 1945, Turkey declared war on Nazi Germany and Japan. This was done after Turkey severed diplomatic ties with Germany in August 1944. German-Turkish relations have their beginnings in the times of the Ottoman Empire and they have culminated in the development of strong bonds with many facets that include economic, military, cultural and social relations.



### ➤ 1861 - Birth of great freedom fighter and social reformer Madan Mohan Malaviya.







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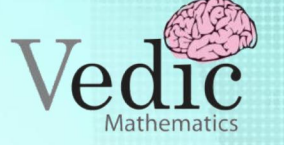
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Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya was born in 1861 in Allahabad (now Prayagraj), Uttar Pradesh. He belonged to a Gaud Brahmin family. His father's name was Pandit Brajnath Malaviya and mother's name was Moona Devi. He was a great freedom fighter, social reformer, educationist, and journalist. He was the founder of Kashi Hindu University. He was elected President of the Indian National Congress four times.



### Important NEWS on 25 FEB

➤ **1872 - Birth of Ganganath Jha, a great scholar of Sanskrit language.**

Ganganath Jha, a great scholar of Sanskrit language, was born in 1872. He was born in Sarisab-Pahi village of Madhubani district. He died in Prayagraj in 1941. He was a scholar of Sanskrit, Hindi, Maithili, and English. He was also an educationist and was also the President of Hindi Sahitya Sammelan.

➤ **SBI Cuts India's FY25 GDP Forecast to 6.3%**

The State Bank of India (SBI) has revised India's GDP growth forecast for the fiscal year 2024-25 (FY25) to 6.3%, slightly below the National Statistical Office's (NSO) projection of 6.4%. This adjustment reflects concerns over slowing economic momentum, particularly in lending, manufacturing, and aggregate demand. The new estimate comes at a time when policymakers are focused on sustaining growth through fiscal and monetary measures.





#### ➤ Mising Tribe Celebrates Ali Ai Ligang Festival

The Mising tribe, one of Assam's largest indigenous communities, recently celebrated the Ali Ai Ligang festival, a significant cultural and agricultural event. It is deeply connected to the agricultural traditions of the Mising people, who primarily depend on farming for their livelihood.



#### ➤ India Assumes Chairmanship of Bay of Bengal Inter-Governmental Organisation

India has assumed the Chairmanship of BOBP-IGO from Bangladesh during the 13th Governing Council Meeting in Malé, Maldives. Led by Dr Abhilaksh Likhi, India reaffirmed its commitment to sustainable fisheries, regional cooperation, and small-scale fishers' welfare. Under India's leadership, BOBP-IGO will focus on marine resource management, capacity building, policy advocacy, and combating IUU fishing, aligning with the 'Viksit

Bharat 2047' vision for economic and environmental sustainability.



#### ➤ New Bat Coronavirus HKU5-CoV-2 Discovered in China

Chinese researchers have identified a new bat coronavirus, named HKU5-CoV-2, which has the ability to infect human cells. The virus uses the ACE2 receptor, the same pathway that SARS-CoV-2, the virus responsible for COVID-19, uses to enter human cells. The discovery has raised concerns about potential zoonotic transmission, emphasizing the need for continuous surveillance of bat-borne viruses.





#### ➤ ISRO Develops World's Largest Vertical Propellant Mixer

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has achieved a significant milestone by developing a 10-tonne vertical planetary mixer, the largest of its kind globally, for solid propellant production. This indigenous mixer, created in collaboration with the Central Manufacturing Technology Institute (CMTI) in Bengaluru, is set to enhance the efficiency and safety of solid rocket motor manufacturing, marking a substantial advancement in India's space capabilities.



#### ➤ Kash Patel Sworn in as the Ninth Director of the FBI, Takes Oath on Bhagavad Gita

Indian-origin Kash Patel was officially sworn in as the ninth Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on February, 2025. Patel, known for his close ties to former US President Donald Trump, took his oath on the sacred Hindu text, the Bhagavad Gita, marking a significant moment in US history.



#### ➤ First Astronaut with Disability Cleared for ISS Mission

In a groundbreaking development, the European Space Agency (ESA) has medically cleared British astronaut John McFall, a former Paralympian with a prosthetic leg, for long-duration missions to the International Space Station (ISS). This historic decision marks a significant milestone in making space exploration more inclusive.

#### Current affairs MCQS on 25 FEB

Q.1. Which country is the host of the 34th ITTF-ATTU Asian Cup Table Tennis Tournament recently?  
(a) Indonesia





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- (b) China  
(c) India  
(d) Malaysia

**Answer: (b) China**

The 34th International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF)-Asian Table Tennis Union (ATTU) Asian Cup table tennis tournament will be held at the Shenzhen Universiade Sports Centre in Shenzhen, China. Athletes from various countries are participating in the event. India's men's team is led by veteran player Sharath Kamal. The mascot of the tournament was "Peng Peng", named after Shenzhen's nickname "Pengcheng".

**Q.2. Recently, which state government has approved a new land law to protect cultural identity and natural resources?**

- (a) Himachal Pradesh  
(b) Gujarat  
(c) Uttarakhand  
(d) Assam

**Answer: (c) Uttarakhand**

In a significant move, the Pushkar Singh Dhami-led government in Uttarakhand repealed the land law made during the tenure of former Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat and approved a stringent law, meeting the persistent demands of various social and political organizations of the state.

**Q.3. Recently, which state's forest project has been awarded the SKOCH Award?**

- (a) Bihar  
(b) Nagaland  
(c) Gujarat  
(d) Andhra Pradesh

**Answer: (b) Nagaland**

The Nagaland Forest Management Project (NFMP) has been conferred the SKOCH Award 2024, a prestigious award given for outstanding contribution to national development. The honour was presented during the 100th SKOCH Summit held at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. The award was accepted by Ngo Konyak (Deputy Project

Director, NFMP) and Wenyai Konyak (Resident Commissioner, Nagaland House, New Delhi) on behalf of the Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (DEFCC), Government of Nagaland.

**Q.4. Who has recently won the Memory League World Championship 2025?**

- (a) Vishwa Rajkumar  
(b) Abhay Singh  
(c) Rajiv Kumar  
(d) None of the above

**Answer: (a) Vishwa Rajkumar**

In a remarkable feat of cognitive excellence, 20-year-old Vishwa Rajkumar from India has been declared the winner of the Memory League World Championship. This prestigious competition challenges participants to memorise and recall sequences of numbers, images and words in record time. Rajkumar's record-breaking performance helped him memorise 80 digits in just 13.5 seconds, demonstrating his exceptional mental agility.

**Q.5. Recently, who has become the second country to issue digital pilot license after China?**

- (a) Australia  
(b) Russia  
(c) Japan  
(d) India

**Answer: (d) India**

India has launched Electronic Personal License (EPL) for flight crew, taking a significant step towards modernizing its aviation sector. With this initiative, India has become the second country in the world after China to adopt a digital licensing system. Launched by Civil Aviation Minister K. Ramamohan Naidu, this EPL program will help make the licensing process more convenient, transparent and efficient. This initiative is in line with India's vision of digital transformation and aviation security, as well as will help meet the growing demand of the aviation industry.







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**Q.6. Who has recently been chosen as the "Woman of the Year" of 2025 by Time magazine?**

- (a) Purnima Devi Burman
- (b) Neerja Parekh
- (c) Madhavi Gaur
- (d) None of the above

**Answer:(a) Purnima Devi Burman**

Assam's wildlife biologist Dr Purnima Devi Burman has been included in Time magazine's 2025 "Woman of the Year" list. Dr Purnima Devi Burman is among 13 women from across the world who have been included in Time magazine's list. These women have been included in this list for their contribution in creating a better, more equitable world by identifying and finding solutions to problems related to women.

**Q.7. In which Union Territory, organ donors will be given state honors for their life-saving contribution?**

- (a) Chandigarh
- (b) Ladakh
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Puducherry

**Answer:(d) Puducherry**

Recently, the Puducherry government has announced that organ donors will be given state honours in recognition of their life-saving contributions. Additionally, on occasions like Republic Day and Independence Day, the Lieutenant Governor or the Chief Minister will invite the families of organ donors to government functions and honour them publicly.

**Q.8. Who tops the list of the world's richest women released recently?**

- (a) Francois Bettencourt Meyers
- (b) Julia Koch
- (c) Alice Walton
- (d) None of the above

**Answer:(c) Alice Walton**

In February 2025, Forbes India released its 5th edition of the list of "Top 10 Richest Women in the World 2025", highlighting the significant wealth

earned by women across various sectors. Alice Louise Walton, daughter of Sam Walton, founder of United States of America (USA)-based Walmart Inc., topped the global list with a net worth of USD 112.5 billion.

**Q.9. Who has recently inaugurated the first edition of SOUL Leadership Conclave?**

- (a) Jagdeep Dhankhar
- (b) Om Birla
- (c) Narendra Modi
- (d) None of the above

**Answer:(c) Narendra Modi**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the SOUL (School of Ultimate Leadership) Conclave 2025 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, a significant step in leadership development for a developed India. The program focuses on grooming future leaders in various fields, enabling them to develop strategic decision making, adaptability and problem-solving approach. A dedicated campus of SOUL will be set up near GIFT City, Gujarat, which will provide world-class leadership training.

**Q.10. According to the recently released Lancet report, how much percentage of global suicide mortality has declined in the last three decades?**

- (a) 60%
- (b) 40%
- (c) 50%
- (d) 80%

**Answer:(b) 40%**

The global age-standardised mortality rate for suicide has fallen by almost 40 per cent over the past three decades – from about 15 deaths per million population to 9 deaths per million population. This suggests that intervention and prevention strategies are working.

**Q.11. Where was the 9th Asia Economic Dialogue held recently?**

- (a) Pune
- (b) Goa







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- (c) Mumbai  
(d) New Delhi

**Answer:(a) Pune**

The ninth edition of the flagship Asia Economic Dialogue (AED) will be held in Pune, Maharashtra to discuss key contemporary topics in geo-economics, including AI and automation, and the impact of climate change on the global economy.

**Q.12. Who has recently become the director of the US investigative agency FBI?**

- (a) Kash Patel  
(b) M Mohan  
(c) Rajesh Nirvan  
(d) None of the above

**Answer:(a) Kash Patel**

Kash Patel was sworn in as FBI director, calling the opportunity to lead the nation's premier federal law enforcement agency the "greatest honor" of his life. He took the oath with his hand on the Bhagavad Gita. Mr Patel was confirmed by the Senate by a margin of 51-49, with two Republican lawmakers, Susan Collins of Maine and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, breaking party ranks to vote against him.

**Q.13. Till when has the tenure of Chief Economic Advisor V Anantha Nageswaran been extended?**

- (a) March 2028  
(b) March 2026  
(c) March 2029  
(d) March 2027

**Answer:(d) March 2027**

The Government of India has extended the tenure of Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) V Anantha Nageswaran till March 2027. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the decision. Nageswaran has played a key role in shaping the government's economic policies and preparing the annual economic survey. His tenure has been extended at a time when the country's economic growth is expected to slow down. According to the Economic

Survey 2024-25, GDP growth for FY26 is estimated to be 6.3% to 6.8%.

**Q.14. Who has recently received the prestigious Governor's Citation from Massachusetts Governor Maura Healy?**

- (a) Salila Pandey  
(b) Neeta Ambani  
(c) Sudha Murthy  
(d) None of the above

**Answer:(b) Neeta Ambani**

Nita Ambani, Founder and Chairperson of Reliance Foundation, was presented with the prestigious Governor's Citation by Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey for her visionary leadership and extraordinary contribution to society. In a social media announcement by Reliance Foundation on X, the citation was presented in recognition of Nita Ambani's significant impact in various fields including education, healthcare, sports, arts, culture and women's empowerment, which has impacted the lives of countless people in India and around the world.

**Q.15. Who has topped the recent bird count in India for the third consecutive year?**

- (a) West Bengal  
(b) Uttar Pradesh  
(c) Odisha  
(d) Andhra Pradesh

**Answer:(a) West Bengal**

The Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) is one of the world's largest bird census programmes, in which bird lovers from across the world participate and count various species. This year too, West Bengal has topped the list by counting the highest number of bird species in India, the third consecutive feat for the state.

